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Mycological Bulletin No. 14

W. A. Kellerman, Ph. D., Ohio State University

Columbus, Ohio, March 26, 1904

NOTE.—Requests for bound copies of the MYCOLOGICAL BULLETIN, Vol. I, have been complied with, and a very few copies may be obtained at an advance of 25 cents in price, namely, 75 cents a copy.

TWO OBJECTS.—This No. of the Bulletin is designed to introduce the genus of Mushrooms called AM-A-NI-TA, which unfortunately contains *poisonous* species; and at the same time to renew the notice relative to Atkinson's book on "MUSHROOMS EDIBLE AND POISONOUS," which I regard as the best work for every body to use.

PORTRAIT.—The portrait of Professor Geo. F. Atkinson (with autograph) is presented on the second page, and at the same time acknowledgement is made for the illustrations in this No., all of which are taken from his admirable book on Mushrooms. We will therefore call this issue of the Bulletin the ATKINSON NUMBER.

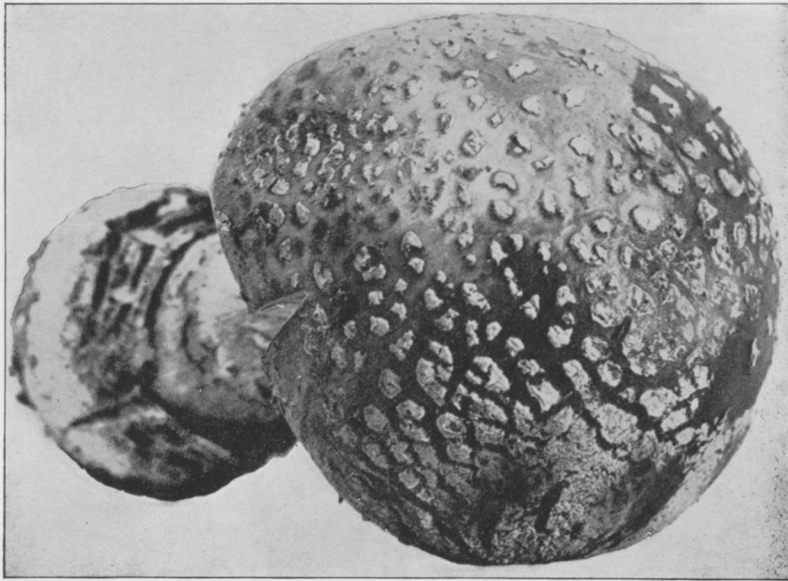


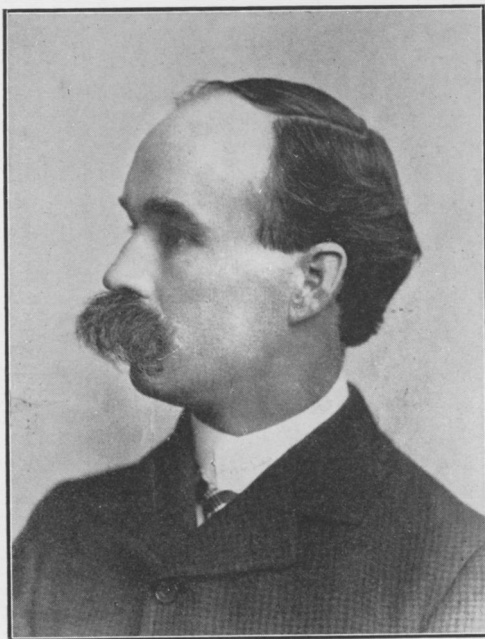
Fig. 51. AM-A-NI-TA MUS-CA-RI-A. FLY AG-AR-IC. POISONOUS. Cap yellow or orange; scales on cap and at base of stem white—but these may be yellowish and later they fall off readily. Stem and gills white; a spore-print (evident on colored paper) white. Occurs in Summer and early Autumn. It may be found along roadides near trees, or in woods. It is a conspicuous plant—the orange or yellow coloring usually brilliant and in strong contrast to the white of stem and gills. The specimens may be five to seven inches high, and the cap three to five inches broad. It is widely distributed in this country and elsewhere in the world. Photo from specimens collected at Ithaca, N. Y. This cut, also Figs. 52 and 53, from Atkinson's Mushrooms.

HENRY HOLT & CO. PUBLISHERS.—It has recently been announced that this firm (New York) are now the publishers of Atkinson's Mushrooms. The price is \$3.00, (by mail \$3.23). This notice is to correct the statement in an early No. of the Bulletin that the author was the publisher.

COLORED ILLUSTRATIONS.—We are convinced that the most valuable representations of Mushrooms are the photographic ones, not the colored plates; of course both are to be desired—but *rely* on the former rather than the latter. Poor ones, whether photos or paintings, ought not to be tolerated—at any rate not used. "Put no trust in color" a great botanist said over a century ago—colors are not always a stable affair, but the minute anatomical characters can be relied on.

AM-A-NI-TA.—The Mushrooms of this genus, some of them deadly poisonous, include two or three dozen kinds, with white gills and white spores. They may be positively known by the presence (seen in the early stages of development) of a *vol-va* and a *veil*. The *VOL-VA* is the sac-like portion or cup below the surface of the soil, out of the top of which the cap and stem push. This is shown in all of our Figures. Look *carefully* for it when getting specimens. It is called in some of the books, *universal veil*—better understood if the plants are seen in the "button" stage. The *VEIL*, sometimes called the *partial veil*, is very conspicuous in these Mushrooms, shown in the Figures immediately under the cap—in fact it was attached to the cap before the latter expanded; but this structure remains cohering to the stem, ringlike—hence it is called the *an-nu-lus*, or *ring*.

Correction.—According to Professor Morgan, who kindly communicated with me on the subject, Fig. 48, *Clavaria pyxidata* (Myc. Bull. p. 49) should be changed to *Cla-va'-ri-a cor-o-na'-ta* "Resembling in form the preceding, but a distinct species." Fig. 49 (p 51) is not *Coprinus micaceus*, but *Psathy-ret'-la dis-sem-i-na'-ta*.



Very sincerely,
G. W. Atkinson

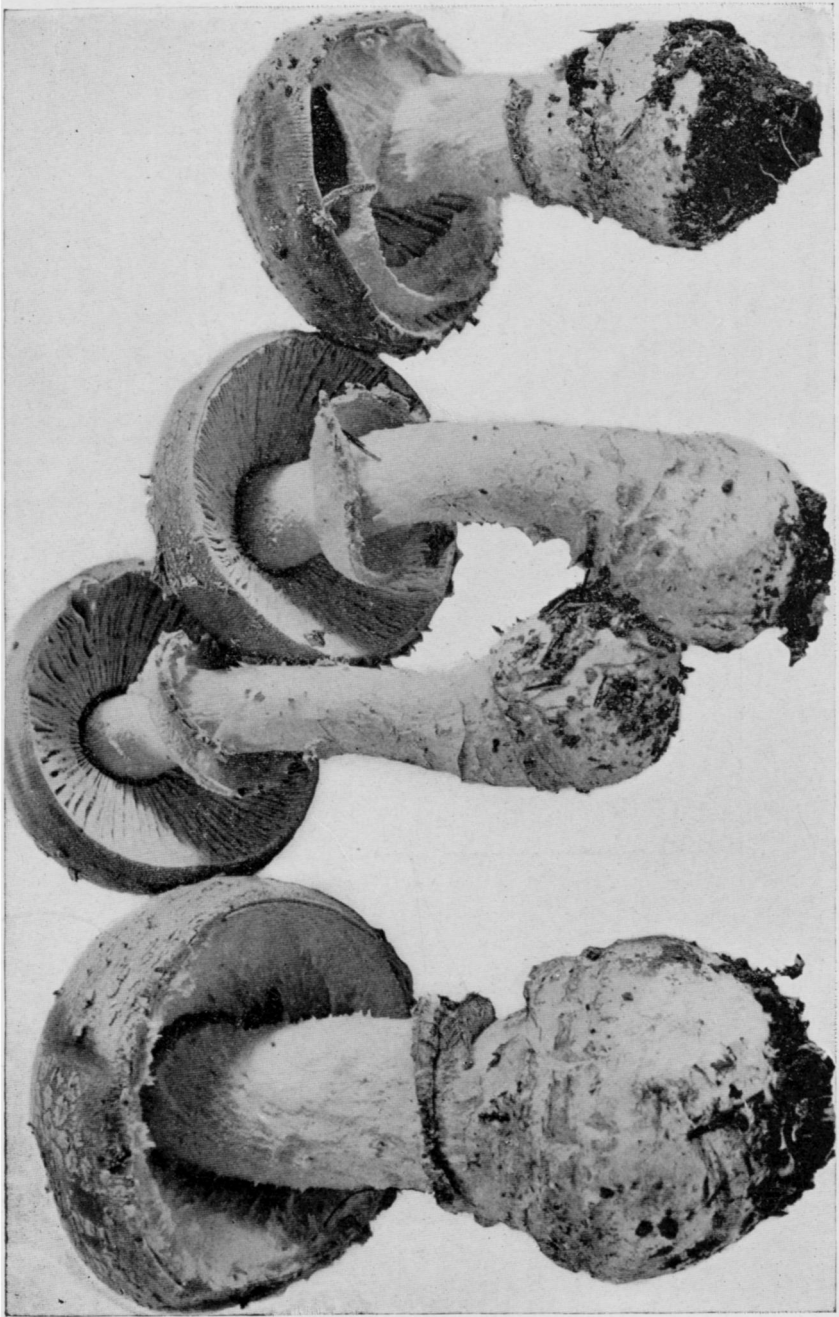


Fig. 52. AM A-NI'-TA MUS-CA'-RI-A. FLY AG'-AR-IC. POISONOUS. Cup orange or yellow: scales, stem and gills, white. See explanation under Fig. 51.

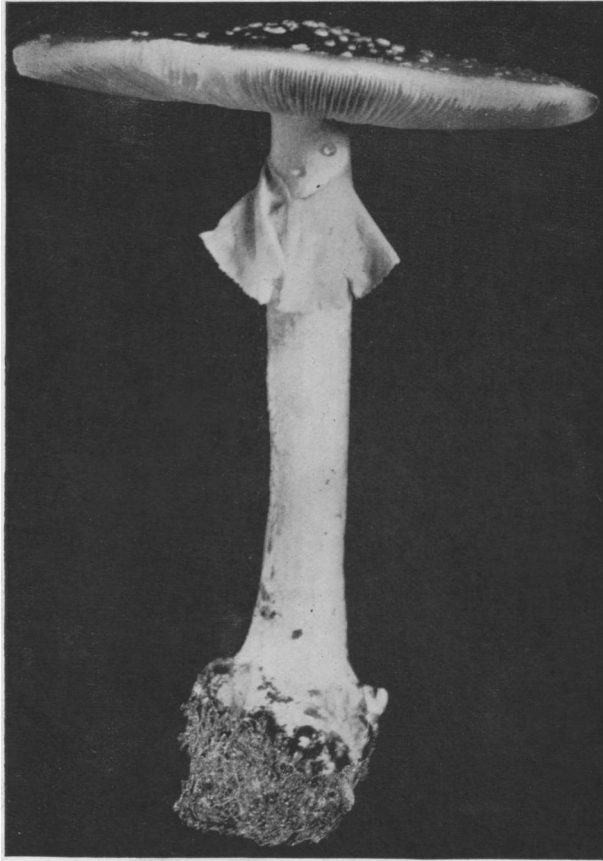


Fig. 53. AM-A-NI'-TA PHAL-LOI'-DRE. DEADLY AG-A-RIC. POISONOUS. Varies from pure white to yellowish, green, olive or umber. The cap is slimy when moist, convex or bell-shaped and finally expanded as shown in the figure; the margin may be then slightly elevated. The scales are not always present on the cap. The plant usually occurs in or at the border of woods. It may be even larger than the Fly Ag-a-ric. The plant, especially the vol-va, is quite variable. Taken with permission from Atkinson's Mushrooms.

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(TO BE CONTINUED)

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